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Chairman: Mr. Rosenthal ..... (Guatemala)
Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions: Mr. Mselle

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The meeting was called to order at 10.25 a.m.

Agenda item 115: Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors (*continued*) (A/C.5/55/L.63)

Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.63

1. **Mr. Elgammal** (Egypt) introduced draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.63.

2. *Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.63 was adopted.*

Agenda item 116: Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations (*continued*)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (*continued*) (A/C.5/55/L.61)

Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.61

3. **Mr. Kelapile** (Botswana), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.61.

4. *Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.61 was adopted.*

Agenda item 116: Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations (*continued*)

Agenda item 123: Human resources management (*continued*)

Delegation of authority for management of human and financial resources in the United Nations Secretariat (*continued*) (A/C.5/55/L.62)

Draft decision A/C.5/55/L.62

5. **Mr. Chaudhry** (Pakistan) introduced draft decision A/C.5/55/L.62.

6. *Draft decision A/C.5/55/L.62 was adopted.*

Proposed regulations governing the status, basic rights and duties of officials other than Secretariat officials and experts on mission and regulations governing the status, basic rights and duties of the Secretary-General (*continued*) (A/C.5/55/L.88)

Draft decision A/C.5/55/L.88

7. **Mr. Nakkari** (Syrian Arab Republic) said that his delegation was satisfied at the approach being taken to the report of the Secretary-General contained in document A/55/928. He noted, however, that the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) had not made any comments on the regulations governing the officials mentioned in the report and wondered whether that indicated acceptance. The points relating to the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) had been dealt with in the past and could be discussed later. With regard to the International Law Commission (ILC), article 2 of the proposed regulations should be amended to allow for review of activities conducted while on official missions, as most members of the Commission were also members of public institutions in their home countries.

8. His delegation agreed that the statute should not apply to the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU), which as an external body must maintain its independence. It therefore endorsed the reservations which JIU had expressed about the report and agreed with the position taken by the Secretary-General.

9. With regard to the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS), his delegation did not endorse the provision contained in paragraph 20 of the report concerning the possible exemption of experts on mission from the proposed regulations. It, however, shared the Secretary-General's view that the issue as to whether the proposed regulations should apply to the JIU inspectors and the ICSC Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members was a matter to be decided by the General Assembly.

10. *Draft decision A/C.5/55/L.88 was adopted.*

Agenda item 117: Programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001 (*continued*)

Outline of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 for the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO (*continued*) (A/C.5/55/L.78)

Draft decision A/C.5/55/L.78

11. *Draft decision A/C.5/55/L.78 was adopted.*

12. **Mr. Repasch** (United States of America) said that his delegation had joined the consensus on the draft decision on the understanding that the decision was being taken by Member States without prejudice to the decision to be taken later on the overall United Nations budget.

Agenda item 117: Programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001 (*continued*)

Agenda item 116: Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations (*continued*)

Review of management and administration in the Registry of the International Court of Justice (*continued*) (A/C.5/55/L.82)

Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.82

13. **Mr. Kelapile** (Botswana), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.82.

14. *Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.82 was adopted.*

Agenda item 122: Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations (*continued*) (A/C.5/55/L.79)

Draft decision A/C.5/55/L.79

15. *Draft decision A/C.5/55/L.79 was adopted.*

Agenda item 126: Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (*continued*) (A/C.5/55/L.86)

Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.86

16. **Mr. Kelapile** (Botswana), Vice-Chairman, introducing draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.86, said that, the word "are" in the second line of paragraph 1 should be replaced by "would be". Following lengthy consultations, a consensus had been reached on the text of the draft resolution. He thanked delegations for the flexibility they had shown and hoped that similar backlogs of reports could be avoided in the future.

17. *Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.86, as orally revised, was adopted.*

18. **Mr. Repasch** (United States of America) said that the adoption of the draft resolution on the OIOS reports was a major step forward. His delegation was disappointed, however, that the most recent annual report of OIOS had not been included. It looked forward to a discussion of the internal oversight mechanisms in operational funds and programmes.

19. **Mr. Gruzdev** (Russian Federation) welcomed the consensus that had been achieved on a question which had a long and difficult history.

20. **Mr. Lenefors** (Sweden), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that many of the concerns that had been raised during the consideration of the draft resolution had been addressed in General Assembly resolution 54/244. It was his understanding that future OIOS reports would be in conformity with that resolution.

21. **Mr. Nakkari** (Syrian Arab Republic) thanked all delegations for the flexibility shown in arriving at a consensus. His delegation hoped that it would be possible to move forward and to avoid repeating the mistakes of the past.

22. **Ms. Silot Bravo** (Cuba) said she regretted that it had taken five years to resolve the issue of the annual reports of OIOS, especially since it could have been resolved following the adoption of General Assembly resolution 54/244. It was important to ensure that the General Assembly could play its proper role in considering and taking action on the reports of OIOS, so that the most effective use would be made of the Office's findings.

23 **Mr. Chaudhry** (Pakistan) said he was pleased that the Committee had finally addressed the question of all the annual reports which had been pending since the establishment of OIOS. Naturally, that important Office should work in accordance with the General Assembly' s guidelines. He hoped that all future OIOS reports would be consistent with the relevant General Assembly resolutions.

24. **Mr. Bouheddou** (Algeria) said he hoped that, with the adoption of the draft resolution, the errors which had caused the delays in the consideration of the reports of OIOS would not recur in the future.

25. **Mr. Ahmed** (Iraq) said that he appreciated the coordinator's efforts to achieve a consensus between his delegation and OIOS.

Agenda item 153: Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations (*continued*)

(a) Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations (*continued*)

Support account for peacekeeping operations (*continued*) (A/C.5/55/L.81)

Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.81

26. **Mr. Crom** (Netherlands), introduced draft resolution (A/C.5/55/L.81).

27. *Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.81 was adopted.*

28. **Mr. Nesser** (Sweden), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that, at the current session, the lack of specific budget submissions for four of the largest peacekeeping operations made it difficult for national financial authorities to plan adequately for the increase in peacekeeping expenditure and to follow up on the justification for past expenditure. He hoped that, in future, the peacekeeping budget cycle would be properly restored and respected.

29. **Mr. Nakkari** (Syrian Arab Republic) said that his delegation had joined the consensus on draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.81 on the understanding that paragraph 10 would not in any way prejudice the substance or the presentation of the budget and that it would not prejudge future reports to the General Assembly on the implementation of the recommendations of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations.

30. **Mr. Orr** (Canada), speaking also on behalf of Australia and New Zealand, said, with respect to paragraph 10 of the draft resolution, that the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation applied to all budgets. He expected that the budgets for individual peacekeeping operations would use the results-based budgeting format beginning in the next budget cycle. He looked forward to the submission of revised resource requirements for the support account prior to the fifty-sixth session. The expansion of peacekeeping operations, particularly in Africa, required adequate support at Headquarters. At the Committee's 59th meeting, Australia, Canada and New Zealand had referred to the planning difficulties caused by the different mandate periods of various peacekeeping missions. He reiterated their request that the Contributions Service, in consultation with the Peacekeeping Financing Division, should help Member States to pay their peacekeeping assessments in full and on time by providing them with a schedule indicating the anticipated timing of peacekeeping assessments for the next financial period.

31. **Mr. Chandra** (India) said that the Secretariat should take immediate action to implement paragraph 12 of the draft resolution, which called for the strengthening of the Finance Management and Support Service in the area of claims processing. He was concerned to note that the posts which the General Assembly had approved for the Claims and Information Management Section had been established not in that Section, but elsewhere. That had resulted in unacceptable backlogs in claims processing, much to the regret of troop-contributing countries. He hoped that remedial proposals to address that concern would be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

Financing of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy (*continued*) (A/C.5/55/L.90)

Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.90

32. **Ms. Merchant** (Norway), introduced draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.90.

33. *Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.90 was adopted.*

Reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (continued) (A/C.5/55/L.85)

Draft decision A/C.5/55/L.85

34. **Mr. Kelapile** (Botswana), Vice-Chairman, introducing draft decision A/C.5/55/L.85 on the reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on a number of peacekeeping missions, said that, by adopting the draft decision, the Committee would recommend that the General Assembly should reiterate its previous decision that reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services should be considered under the relevant items of the Assembly's agenda.

35. *Draft decision A/C.5/55/L.85 was adopted.*

36. **Ms. Silot Bravo** (Cuba) recalled that the General Assembly had earlier decided that thematic reports of OIOS which related to the work of other Main Committees should be considered by those Committees

under the relevant agenda items. She hoped that the Secretariat would act on that decision and that the Fifth Committee would be informed of the results of the deliberations of other intergovernmental bodies and Main Committees with respect to topics dealt with in OIOS reports.

Experiences learned from the use of resident auditors at peacekeeping missions (*continued*) (A/C.5/55/L.92)

Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.92

37. **Mr. Orr** (Canada) introduced draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.92.

38. *Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.92 was adopted.*

39. **Mr. Nakkari** (Syrian Arab Republic) said that his delegation had joined the consensus on the draft resolution in the light of the Secretariat's indication that the draft resolution would not have any financial implications for the resources of OIOS and in the light of paragraph 6 of the Advisory Committee's report (A/55/828). An appropriate mechanism should be established whereby resident auditors would not remain at a given peacekeeping mission for more than two years.

Death and disability benefits (*continued*) (A/C.5/55/L.91)

Draft decision A/C.5/55/L.91

40. **Mr. Ramos** (Portugal), Rapporteur, introduced draft decision A/C.5/55/L.91.

41. *Draft decision A/C.5/55/L.91 was adopted.*

Prorated share of the costs of the support account and of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, to be apportioned to each peacekeeping mission (A/C.5/55/43)

42. **Mr. Yeo** (Director, Peacekeeping Financing Division) introduced the note by the Secretary-General on the apportionment of the costs of the support account and of the United Nations Logistics Base among the individual peacekeeping operations (A/C.5/55/43). Information on the apportionment of those costs was always submitted late in the session because the General Assembly had decided that the resources approved for the Logistics Base and the support account should not be appropriated separately, but should be reflected in the individual resolutions adopted on the financing of each peacekeeping operation.

43. Table A of the annex to the note showed the recommended appropriations in respect of missions for which budgets had already been submitted. In order to avoid distorting the assessment rates for active peacekeeping operations, as recommended by the Advisory Committee (A/55/882, para. 27), the table also showed the basis for calculating the prorated shares of the five missions in transition for which budgets had not yet been submitted. For those five missions, the current (2000-2001) budget levels had been used to determine their shares of the costs of the Logistics Base and of the support account. Table B showed the appropriation and commitment authority amounts resulting from the inclusion of the prorated shares indicated in table A. Because some of the figures had been rounded off, not all of the amounts in table B added up to the exact totals shown in the table. A corrigendum would be issued to correct those minor discrepancies.

44. **The Chairman** said he took it that the Committee wished to take note of the information contained in the note by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/55/43).

45. *It was so decided.*

Agenda item 129: Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission and the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola (*continued*) (A/C.5/55/L.64)

Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.64

46. **The Chairman** drew the Committee's attention to draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.64, which had been submitted by the representative of Croatia and Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

47. *Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.64 was adopted.*

Agenda item 130: Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 687 (1991) (*continued*)

(a) United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (*continued*) (A/C.5/55/L.69)

Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.69

48. **Mr. Christian** (Ghana) introduced draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.69.

49. **Mr. Chandra** (India) said that the draft resolution under consideration and several others to be taken up by the Committee at its current meeting had been issued with blanks pending calculation of the prorated share of each peacekeeping mission in the financing of the support account for peacekeeping operations and the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi. In order to save time, the Committee should depart from its usual practice of having the Secretariat read out those amounts, along with the appropriation for each mission, before it took action on the draft resolutions, since that information was provided in the note by the Secretary-General on the support account for peacekeeping operations and the financing of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy (A/C.5/55/43).

50. *It was so decided.*

51. *Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.69 was adopted.*

Agenda item 132: Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (*continued*) (A/C.5/55/L.65)

Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.65

52. The Chairman drew the Committee's attention to draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.65, which had been submitted by the representative of Croatia and Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

53. **Mr. Yeo** (Director, Peacekeeping Financing Division) said that the fourth preambular paragraph should read as follows:

> "*Reaffirming* the general principles underlying the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S/4) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,"

54. *Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.65, as orally revised, was adopted.*

Agenda item 133: Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (*continued*) (A/C.5/55/L.68)

Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.68

55. **Ms. Merchant** (Norway) introduced draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.68.

56. *Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.68 was adopted.*

Agenda item 134: Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (*continued*) (A/C.5/55/L.89)

Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.89

57. **Mr. Chandra** (India), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.89.

58. *Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.89 was adopted.*

Agenda item 135: Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (*continued*) (A/C.5/55/L.66)

Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.66

59. **The Chairman** drew the Committee's attention to draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.66, which had been submitted by the representative of Croatia and Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

60. *Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.66 was adopted.*

Agenda item 136: Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (*continued*) (A/C.5/55/L.70)

Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.70

61. **Mr. Yamanaka** (Japan) introduced draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.70.

62. *Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.70 was adopted.*

Agenda item 137: Financing of the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force (*continued*)
(A/C.5/55/L.73)

Draft decision A/C.5/55/L.73

63. **Mr. Chandra** (India), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft decision A/C.5/55/L.73.

64. *Draft decision A/C.5/55/L.73 was adopted.*

Agenda item 138: Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East (*continued*)

(b) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (*continued*) (A/C.5/55/L.77)

Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.77

65. **The Chairman** recalled that, in introducing the draft resolution at the Committee's 65th meeting, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, had orally revised paragraphs 22 and 24 by replacing the words "the scheme set out in" with the words "paragraph 20 of".

66. **Mr. Wittmann** (United States of America) asked whether the oral revision proposed by the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran was limited to paragraphs 22 and 24 of the draft resolution.

67. **The Chairman** confirmed that it was so limited.

68. **Ms. Barghouti** (Observer for Palestine), speaking on behalf of the Group of Arab States, recalled that, in paragraph 14 of its resolution 55/180, the General Assembly had stressed that Israel should pay a specific amount in compensation for the damage that had resulted from the incident at Qana on 18 April 1996 and had requested the Secretary-General to report on the matter to the Assembly at its resumed fifty-fifth session. Israel, however, had failed to abide by the various resolutions of the Assembly on the matter and the Group of Arab States had therefore requested that the paragraphs concerning the incident at Qana should be reintroduced in the draft resolution on the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL). The international community, represented by the Fifth Committee, should now adopt the draft resolution with all its amendments and reaffirm Israel's liability for the damage that had resulted from the incident at Qana.

69. The Group of Arab States wished to express its gratitude to UNIFIL for the positive role that it played and for the enormous sacrifices that its mission entailed.

70. *At the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote in one block was taken on the fourth preambular paragraph and on operative paragraphs 2, 3 and 15 of the draft resolution, as orally revised.*

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen.

Against:

Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay.

71. *The fourth preambular paragraph and operative paragraphs 2, 3 and 15 of draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.77, as orally revised, were adopted by 69 votes to 2, with 40 abstentions.*

72. **Mr. Wittmann** (United States of America) said that the United States strongly supported UNIFIL and its mission in Lebanon. Regrettably, however, the focus of the draft resolution, which should properly be concerned only with funding arrangements, had been

shifted by the insertion of text of a political nature. It was for that reason that his delegation had requested a separate vote in one block on the fourth preambular paragraph and on operative paragraphs 2, 3 and 15 of the draft text.

73. *At the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution as a whole, as orally revised.*

In favour:

Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

Against:

Israel, United States of America.

74. *Draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.77 as a whole, as orally revised, was adopted by 113 votes to 2.*

75. **Mr. Nesser** (Sweden), speaking on behalf of the European Union, the associated countries Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Turkey, said that the position of the European Union on the financial aspects related to the Qana incident was based on a number of elements: the costs resulting from the incident were of a specific kind; an appeal to have the costs financed through voluntary contributions would be welcome; the costs should be kept in the budget; and the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations should continue to be a collective responsibility.

76. The delegations on whose behalf he spoke had abstained in the vote on the fourth preambular paragraph and on operative paragraphs 2, 3 and 15 of the draft resolution because they considered that the text, as drafted, was inappropriate in the context of a resolution dealing with the financing of UNIFIL. The broader political aspects of the events, including the incident at Qana, had been debated in the General Assembly in April 1996 and had resulted in the adoption of Assembly resolution 50/22 C. The European Union had made its position on those aspects clear at that time and wished to underline that the consultations in the Fifth Committee should have been confined to the budgetary aspects of the item.

77. **Mr. Yamanaka** (Japan) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution as a whole in order to discharge its responsibility as a Member of the Organization for the funding of United Nations peacekeeping operations. He regretted the Committee's failure to reach a consensus on the draft text, thereby necessitating a vote.

78. **Mr. Fox** (Australia), speaking also on behalf of Canada and New Zealand, said that the delegations on whose behalf he spoke had voted in favour of the draft resolution in order to ensure that arrangements were in place for the financing of UNIFIL. He regretted the Committee's failure to achieve a consensus. The draft paragraphs on which a separate vote had been taken undermined the Organization's longstanding budgetary principles, which were based on collective responsibility. In that connection, he urged all Member States that had not yet done so to pay their assessed contributions in full and without further delay.

79. **Mr. Assaf** (Lebanon) said that, far from politicizing the issue, the draft resolution and amendments thereto were concerned only with financial issues and with the amount that had been specified by the Secretary-General as compensation to the Organization for the damage caused to its headquarters by Israel. It was not a question of

compensation for Lebanon and the Lebanese civilians who had been killed.

80. His delegation agreed that the cost of United Nations peacekeeping operations should be the collective responsibility of the Organization's Members. That did not mean, however, that any Member State could deliberately bomb a United Nations headquarters and then expect other Member States to pay for the damage. Such conduct violated the basic principles of collective responsibility and international law. History was replete with examples of States having to pay compensation for aggression committed against other States. Following the bombing by one State of the embassy of another during the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) war against Yugoslavia, the aggressor State had accepted its responsibility and had paid compensation of $28 million to the victim State.

81. **Mr. Nakkari** (Syrian Arab Republic) said that his delegation fully supported the statements made by the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Lebanon and by the Observer for Palestine. The necessity for a vote on the draft resolution was the result of the failure of the aggressor State to accept its responsibility. While some viewed the draft resolution as politicization of the Committee's work, implementation of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly would preclude the need for future voting to take place.

82. **Mr. Adam** (Israel) said that his delegation was fully in agreement with the statements made by the representatives of Australia, also on behalf of Canada and New Zealand, Japan, the United States of America and Sweden on behalf of the European Union and associated countries. His delegation would make a statement on the matter in the General Assembly.

The meeting rose at 1.05 p.m.